

TAB

Legislative Research  
SAFLL-2  
February 1962

Congressional Information

Name: Russell, Richard B. - Democrat  
Senator from Georgia  
Winder, Georgia

Born: November 2, 1897  
Bachelor

Schools: Agricultural and Mechanical School  
Gordon Institute  
University of Georgia

Profession: Lawyer

Military: USNRF - 1918

Background: Law practice in Winder  
Speaker of House of Georgia (1927-31)  
Governor (1931-33)

Elected to US Senate 1932 (vacancy caused by death of William J. Harris).

Committees: Armed Services - Chairman  
Subcommittees: Central Intelligence - Chairman  
Aeronautical & Space Sciences  
Appropriations  
Subcommittees: Department of Defense  
Military Construction  
Agriculture - Chairman  
Independent Offices  
Interior  
Labor  
Public Works  
AEC  
Deficiencies  
Sp Subc on CIA

Joint Atomic Energy  
Majority Policy Committee - Majority Steering Committee  
Ex Officio - Board of Visitors to the three Academies

Bases: Dobbins, Hunter, Moody, Robins, Turner

Remarks: Quiet, reserved, thinks in broad terms. Participates very little in Washington social affairs. Extremely influential in Senate.

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Procurement Authorization Hearings FY62 - Some Excerpts:

Told Sec. McNamra he had fought very vigorously for building the B-70 but that stretchout would indicate perhaps it would be better to abandon it. Later told Gen. White he has sponsored and supported B-70 program and still was of opinion we should go ahead wit it but the way we are planning it now for the future, manned aircraft attacking force would be practically out of the question. Asked what would be the benefits during this extended research and development period.

Expressed delight in steps being taken to strengthen limited war capabilities.

Deferral of Mobile Minuteman: to Mr. McNamara -- recalled that when original proposal was made - reasons stressed was it could be transported and would be an elusive target.

Unification: told Sec. of Defense he is not a rampant advocate of complete unification, a monolithic command, that as a matter of fact he is opposed to it but there are areas where there can be greater unification i.e. language schools, communications, intelligence, etc.

Nike-Zeus: told Army Sec. Stahr he was misquoted badly by the press that Nike-Zeus ought be increased. Said he has not been a Nike-Zeus man.

Skybolt: discussed with Sec McNamara accuracies of -- rather difficult. Was told it was in R & D stage. Thinks it will be a very difficult weapon to develop - to make operational.

Pay: thought Hook Commission report that more pay should go to the lower officers is better psychological approach than Cordiner report urging substantial increases to higher grades.